THE NEWS OF

HUNGARIAN PHILATELY

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Fifty years ago, on December 15, 1972, Magyar Posta issued the first two stamps in a series of 14 definitives depicting views of various towns and cities across Hungary. The last value in the series was issued in 1980.

SHP Society for Hungarian Philately

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Established 1969

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THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

by **Alan Bauer**

Hello everyone, I hope everyone had a very nice holiday season and that your Christmas stockings were stuffed with some really nice stamps.

As we start the new year, we have some exciting events to look forward to with the SHP. We will be continuing our Zoom series of expert presentations, starting in January starting with Csaba Kohalmi's presentation on the 1896 Hungarian Millennium postal stationery cards. We have three more presentations planned and are looking for volunteers for the second half of the year. If you have a topic that you are passionate about and would like to bring to our membership, please let me know and we will add you to the schedule.

Here is a list of the presentations we have scheduled:

1/14/2023	Csaba Kohalmi	1896 Millenium Cards
2/11/2023	Florent Tricot	Hungarian Hyperinflation of 1945-1946: international relations in postage due between Hungary and abroad
TBD	Chris Brainard	How to become an Occupation expert
TBD	Jan Jaap de Weerd	German censor on Hungarian WWII mail - follow-up

The other major event in 2023 will be our Annual General Meeting, which will be held at the 2023 Great American Stamp Show in Cleveland, Ohio on August 10-13. We will be sharing our booth with the Society for Czechoslovakia Philately (SCP). It will be very exciting to share stories with our fellow collectors from the SCP. We haven't decided yet whether to share a dinner and I'll be discussing that with James Buckner, the President of the SCP. We will be sharing the planning of the booth staffing and other activities. There are some very good Hungarian restaurants in Cleveland, so we will definitely be feasting on Hungarian cuisine. Please let me know if you plan to attend and I will involve you in the planning processes. Also, please let me know if you need any help with travel or lodging arrangements.

I want to wish our members a safe and healthy New Year and as always, …….happy stamping!

❋

WELCOME BACK

A warm welcome back to returning member Lawrence Toomey of Upper Darby, Pennsylvania. Larry was a member of the SHP from 2009-2017 and has decided to rejoin the society. Great to have you back!

❋

THE SHP AUCTIONEER'S REPORT

2022 Year-end Auctioneer's Report						
		2021D	2022A	2022B	2022C	Totals
No. of lots listed		112	90	112	105	419
No. of lots sold		70	67	71	67	275
No. of bids		112	112	122	120	466
No. of Bidders		18	15	15	14	
No. of Consignors		7	8	9	8	
Amount sold		$1,268.00	$2,021.00	$984.00	$1,670.50	$5,943.50
Comm. and Donated		$687.32	$580.42	$570.11	$607.18	$2,445.03
Respectfully submitted,						
Anna Trischan						
SHP Auctioneer						

❋

THE RUMINATIONS OF YOUR EDITOR

by **Robert Lauer**

Given that Csaba's Expert Presentation in January 2023 is on the 1896 Millennium postal stationery cards, I thought it would be appropriate to feature one on the back cover of this issue of **The News**. The card in question is a 2kr "Hunyady János" card (Hodobay #25/22) that has been turned into an advertising card for Hunyadi János Natural Mineral Water with the addition of text to both sides of the regular Millenium postal stationery card. The card has been uprated with a 3kr Coloured Envelope issue stamp with the company perfin to make up the 5kr foreign postcard rate effective at the time. As such, this card is also a link back to Joe Coulbourne's absolutely excellent presentation on Hungarian perfins in January 2022. If you missed it, head to the SHP website and have a look at it. Even if you don't collect Hungarian perfins (yet), it is well worth a watch.

One of the slides that Joe had in his presentation featured a half a dozen of these Hunyadi János Natural Mineral Water postal stationery cards all sent to doctors in the United States. I had never seen one of these before and I hope it wasn't too obvious on Zoom that I was drooling. I definitely want one of these for my collection of Millennium cards! Six months later, I found the card that adorns the back cover of this issue of **The News** in a dealers box at the CAPEX Philatelic Exhibition in Toronto. Yes!!!!!

The stamps that adorn the front cover of this issue are the first two from what I think is one of the prettiest sets of definitives issued by Magyar Posta - the *Tájak-Városok* (town/city-landscapes) series that had denominations from 40 fillér to 50 Forint issued from 1972 through 1980. The 4Ft value of the series, depicting Szolnok, was also reprinted from new plates in 1989. The set contains a couple of interesting plate flaws on the 1Ft Salgótarján and the reprinted 4Ft Szolnok that are the subject of two articles in previous issues of **The News**: "Freak Perforations Make This Item

Unique" by Csaba L. Kohalmi in the January-March 2015 issue (Vol.46, #1) and "Plate Flaw Fanatic: The "Half-back" Flaw on the 1 Ft Salgótarján Stamp of 1972?" in the January-March 2019 issue (Vol.50, #1).

In November, I went to Toronto and fellow SHP member Robert Pinet and I went to a stamp dealers bourse put on by the North Toronto Stamp Club. In one of a dealer's "buck a cover" boxes, Robert Pinet found the cover illutrated below. It is a registered version of one of the "combo" Roosevelt Memorial issue First Day Covers illustrated by Csaba in his article in the April-June 2021 issue of **The News** "Unravelling a Mystery Surrounding the 1947 Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial Stamp Issue". However, in addition to the entire set of Roosevelt Memorial stamps on the front (combined value of 2Ft20), there are also 3 values (10f, 70f and 1Ft) from the 1947 airmail issue on the back for a total postage of 4Ft. Curious as to whether this letter was actually correctly franked, I contacted Csaba. He indicated that, while airmail rates for this period are not entirely clear, the best he and Chris Brainard could figure out was that the airmail surcharge to New York was 1Ft / 5 grams and 1Ft40 / 5 grams to the rest of the USA. So, this letter probably is correctly franked: 1Ft for a foreign letter, 2Ft for Registration and 1Ft for the airmail surcharge to New York.

This issue of **The News** also features letters to the editor from Paul de Leeuw van Weenen and Csaba, Part II of Chris Brainard's and Csaba Kohalmi's brilliant work on the 1919 Szeged National Government Overprint issue and a fascinating article on the Speimen Albums made for the World Fairs prior to the First World War by Károly Szücs. Thank you, gentlemen!

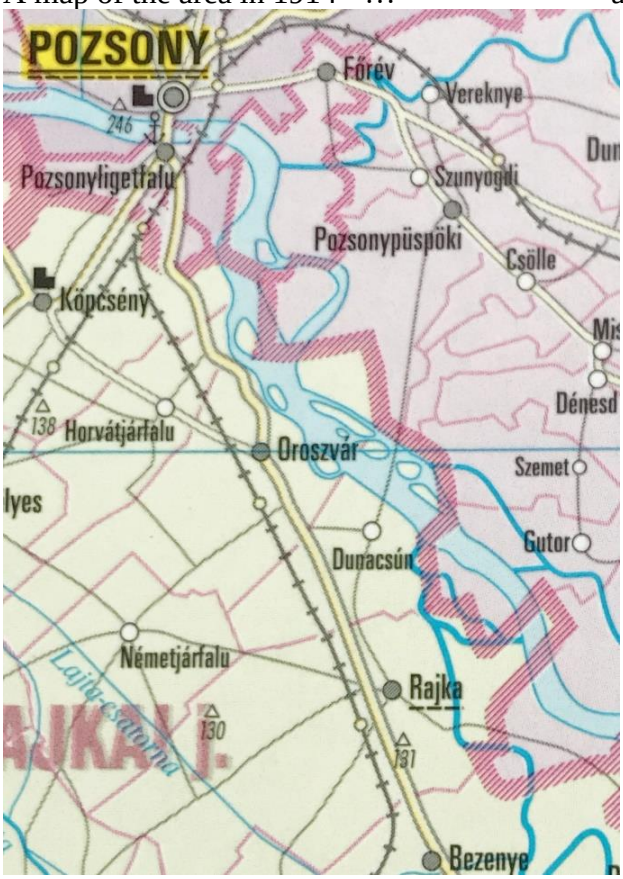
❋

LETTER TO THE EDITOR: 1947 PARIS PEACE TREATY

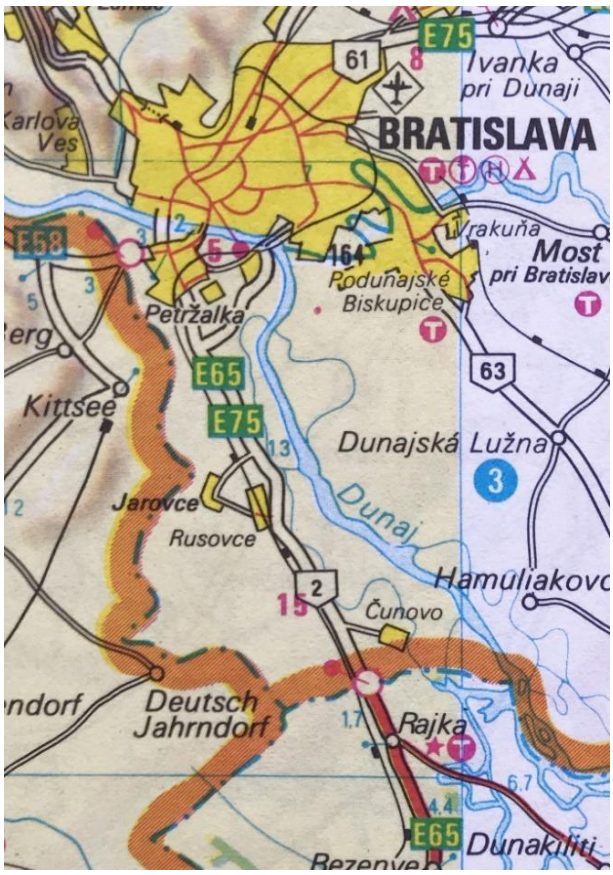
The front cover of the July-September 2022 issue of **The News** illustrated a stamp to mark the signing of the Paris Peace Treaty in February 1947. The associated write-up indicated that three villages were handed over to Czechoslovakia as a result of the treaty. This reminded me of a postal stationery card that I found back in 2017 when the catalogue of the Cancellations of Postal Agencies by Tamás Gudlin & Mariann Csatlós was published, and I started to go through my items with postal agency cancellations. The postal card below, with the pair of 20 fillér stamps from the first issue in the new Forint/fillér currency after the post-war hyperinflation, was send from Dunacsún to Mosonmagyaróvár on January 13, 1947.

At left is an enlargement of the postal agency cancellation on the card: DUNACSÚN 47 I 13 POSTAÜGYN. Dunacsún was one of the three villages that was handed over to Czechoslovakia as a result of February 10, 1947 Paris Peace Treaty in order to form the so-called 'Bratislava bridgehead'. [1] The other two villages that were handed over were Horvátjárfalu and Oroszvár. The names of these three villages are now Čunovo, Jarovce and Rusovce. Maps of the area in 1914 and 1988 are illustrated below.

A map of the area in 1914 [2] …



and in 1988 [3].



However, the Gudlin & Csatlós catalogue only mentions the use of this postal agency canceller from 1942-1944. So, I asked Tamás Gudlin about this and he responded that there was indeed a correction of the border some years after 1945 and that there were postal agencies in Dunacsún and in Horvátjárfalu between 1942/1943 and 1947 [4].

References:

1. Wikipedia Paris Peace Treaty: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paris_Peace_Treaties,_1947
2. Magyarország Közigazgatási Atlasza 1914, Baja-Pécs 2000, ISBN 963-85683-2-1
3. Magyarország Autóatlasza, Budapest 1988/89, ISBN 963-351-343-X-CM
4. Gudlin Tamás & Csatlós Árpádné, Magyarország postagyűjtőhelyeinek, postaügynökségeinek és fiókpostáinak bélyegzései 1788-2014, Cancellations of letter-collecting agencies, postal agencies and branch post offices in Hungary 1788-2014, Budapest 2017, ISBN 978-615-80852-0-5

Paul de Leeuw van Weenen

LETTER TO THE EDITOR: KÁROLY-ZITA PLATE FLAWS

Thank you for the article on the "*Lepke*" plate flaw on the 20f Károly. Now I know what it looks like! I've searched for this, but never found an example. Below on the left are two examples of slightly different manifestations of the "*szakadt fátyol*" or "Torn Veil" plate flaw on the 50f Zita, which is also mentioned in the "Black Book" and is much easier to find. The block of six below right indicates that the flaw is located in position 8 on one or more of the plates used to print sheets of this stamp.

Csaba L. Kohalmi

❋

NEW INSIGHTS INTO THE 1919 SZEGED NATIONAL GOVERNMENT OVERPRINT ISSUE: PART II

by **Christopher Brainard** and **Csaba L. Kohalmi**

(This article was first published in the 2022-1 issue of *Philatelica* and has been republished here with the permission of the authors)

Varieties caused by the reconfiguration:

The relative position of all the words in the individual overprint for all 50 stamps in the original print type form was very constant. When the printing form was reconfigured to overprint the Parliament stamps, this constant relationship broke down. This breakdown can be best seen in the word 'MAGYAR.' On some values of the Parliament stamps the right side of the word 'MAGYAR' can be as high as the top of the word 'NEMZETI.' On other values it can be 1.0 - 2.0 mm lower. At positions 38 and 88 on the full Parliament sheets the spacing between 'NEMZETI' and 'Szeged' is 10 mm instead of the normal 5.5 mm (see *Figure 17*). This mistake was fixed on some sheets as the spacing is correct on the bottom half of the sheet at position 88. The position of the word 'MAGYAR' on the Postage Due stamps can also vary and at sheet positions 11 and 61 is shifted down so low that the left side of 'MAGYAR' is 1.0 mm lower than the bottom of '1919' (see *Figure 18*). At position 15 and 65 the 'ZETI' of 'NEMZETI' is lower than the 'NEM' (see *Figure 19*). Finally at position 10 and 60, the word Szeged is spelled 'Szvged' (as shown in *Figure 6*).

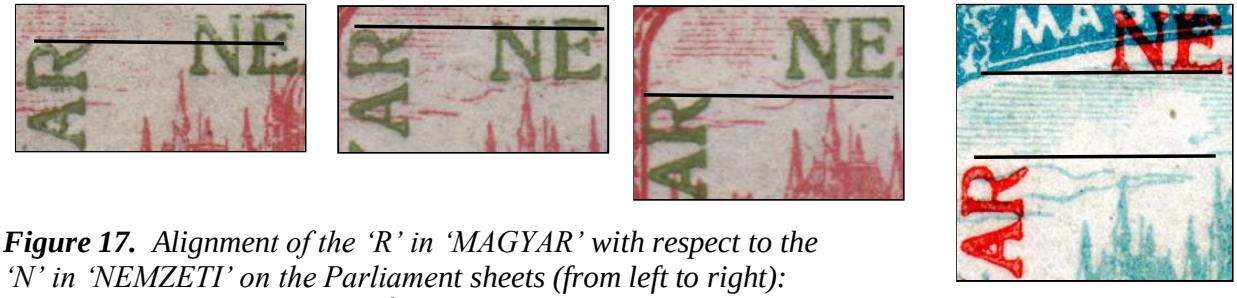


Figure 17. *Alignment of the 'R' in 'MAGYAR' with respect to the 'N' in 'NEMZETI' on the Parliament sheets (from left to right):* **1***) most common spacing,* **2***) 2nd most frequent spacing,* **3***) spacing in positions 14/64,* **4***) radically different spacing from positions 38/88.*

Table 3.

1	1	1	1	2	1	2	1	2	2
1	1	1	3	1	1	2	2	2	2
1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	2	2
1	1	1	1	1	1	2	4	2	2
1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2
1	*	1	1	2	1	2	1	2	2
1	1	1	3	1	1	2	2	2	2
1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	2	2
1	1	1	1	1	1	2	4 (3)	2	2
1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2

Table 3 shows the arrangement of the four types of alignments shown in *Figure 17* for the sheet of Parliament stamps. The alignment in position 62 marked with an '*' is not exactly like 1 or 2, but looks like a 'hybrid' that is not significantly different enough to make it another type. In our small sample of two reconstructed sheets (75f and 1K), alignment 4 shows up in positions 38 and 88 on the 75f value, but on the 1K value it was changed to a 3 in position 88 indicating that the printing form was reconfigured during the printing of the bottom half sheets.

A similar scenario happened when the printing form was reconfigured (for the last time) for overprinting the Postage Due stamps. The uniform, careful alignment of the words MAGYAR and NEMZETI that we observed on the Harvester-sized overprints was no longer true. Just like with the Parliament stamps, we noted four different spacings between the 'R' of 'MAGYAR' and the 'N' of 'NEMZETI' as shown in *Figure 18*.

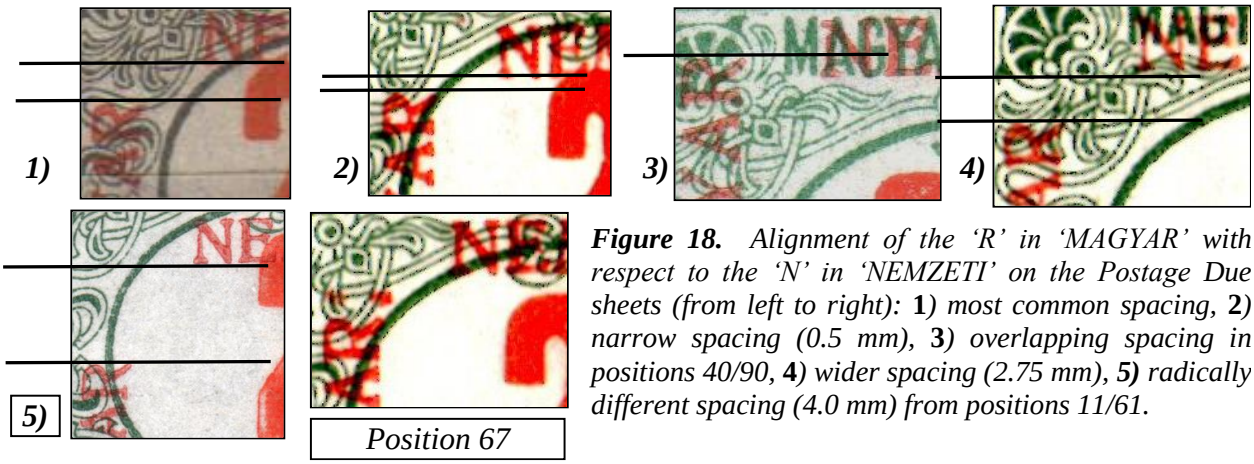


Figure 18. *Alignment of the 'R' in 'MAGYAR' with respect to the 'N' in 'NEMZETI' on the Postage Due sheets (from left to right):* **1***) most common spacing,* **2***) narrow spacing (0.5 mm),* **3***) overlapping spacing in positions 40/90,* **4***) wider spacing (2.75 mm),* **5)** *radically different spacing (4.0 mm) from positions 11/61.*

Table 4.

1	**2**	**1**	**1**	**2**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**
5	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**
1	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**4**	**1**	**1**
1	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**4**	**1**	**3**
1	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**2**	**1**	**1**
1	**2**	**1**	**1**	**2**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**
5	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**
1	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**4**	**1**	**1**
1	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**4**	**1**	**3**
1	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**2**	**1**	**1**

For alignment **1)**, the vertical distance between the left side of the 'R' and the bottom of the 'N' varies between 0.8 to 1.5 mm. We did not differentiate between these spacings since eyeballing an exact measurement with a ±0.5 mm tolerance is inexact. The narrower spacing in **2)** is obviously different from the wider spacing in **1)**. Position 67 (shown as a red 1 in *Table 4*) shows a printer's mark after the 'R.' The mark is much less prominent in position 17. The loss of the precise, uniform spacing can be attributed to the pressure placed on the printers to finish the work.

SOCIETY FOR CZECHOSLOVAK PHILATELY

If you collect the stamps or postal history of Czechoslovakia, the Czech Republic or Slovakia, you may want to consider joining the Society for Czechoslovak Philately. Annual Membership comes with 4 issues of *The Czechoslovak Specialist*, access to the society's Library, Sales circuit and expertization services, as well as member's rates for purchasing books. You can join on the society website – www.csphilately.org or contact

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Figure 19. *Misalignment between 'NEM' and 'ZETI' in 'NEMZETI' from positions 15 and 65 on the Postage Due sheets.*

Surcharge:

Two of the Harvester stamp sheets were surcharged prior to the overprinting (in our opinion, see *Figure 20*). Approximately 500 sheets of each of the 3f Harvester and the 2f Harvester with Köztársaság overprint were surcharged. In addition, 50 sheets of the 1 korona value Parliament stamp were surcharged (probably) after overprinting. Only one of the three surcharges created a typesetting variety: the numeral '45' on the 3f Harvester sheets.

Figure 20. *Freak surcharged stamp fully inked on the reverse side. Note that the green lettering of '(MA)GYAR' overprint is on top of the carmine '2' (best seen when looking at the letter 'Y').*

An open '4' variety can be found on the 45f surcharge on 3f Harvester stamps at sheet positions 9, 10 and again at positions 71, 72 and 73 (see *Figure 21*). The vertical stroke of the '4' is clearly broken while the downward sloping left stroke of the '4' is much thicker than the normal '4' as seen in *Figure 22*. The fact that the two types of '4' on the 45f surcharge do not occur at the same positions on the top and bottom half of the sheets and that there are no discernable shifts between the surcharges found in rows 5 and 6 on the full sheet, the surcharges must have been applied in a 10 x 10 format to a full sheet. Given that a large quantity of sheets needed to be surcharged, the printers' work was not exacting. The location of the surcharged numerals varies greatly from sheet to sheet. *Figure 24* shows this difference in the surcharge.

Figure 21. *Open '4' variety in the surcharge.*

Figure 22. *Closed '4' variety in the surcharge.*

Figure 23. *Surcharged numerals from positions 8-9-10. The 'flag' part of the '5' from position 8 is a thin line. The 'flag' part from position 9 is partially missing.*

Figure 24. *Three different color shades for the '20' surcharge: (l to r) carmine, red, brick red. Also note that the surcharge falls on a different area of the stamp design in each case.*

Express/*sürgős* postage due surcharge:

This overprint needs to be treated separately from the next section on missing letters/numerals because this one-line surcharge exhibited discrete, unique varieties.

Figure 25. *Almost completely missing 't' in 'Portó'.*

Figure 26. *The '0' in '50' is shifted down.*

Figure 27. *The '5' in '50' is shifted down.*

The 't' of 'Portó' is almost completely missing in position 4, 54, 35, and 85 on the 50f surcharged 2f Express/*sürgős* stamps (see *Figure 25*). On the same stamp, the numerals of the surcharge are uneven in positions 1 and 51, where the '0' on the right surcharge is shifted downwards (see *Figure 26*). In positions 37 and 87, the '5' on the left surcharge is shifted downwards (see *Figure 27*).

On the 100f surcharged 2f Express/*sürgős* stamps, the numerals of the surcharge are uneven in positions 6 and 56, where the '0' on the right surcharge is shifted downwards (see *Figure 28*). Also, the printing form used to overprint these stamps appears to have been poorly set in column 3. On our reference block of 25 from the upper left corner of the sheet, every stamp in column 3 has an extremely light or nearly missing '100 Portó 100' overprint (see *Figure 29*).

***Figure 28**. Downward shifted '0' in '100'.*

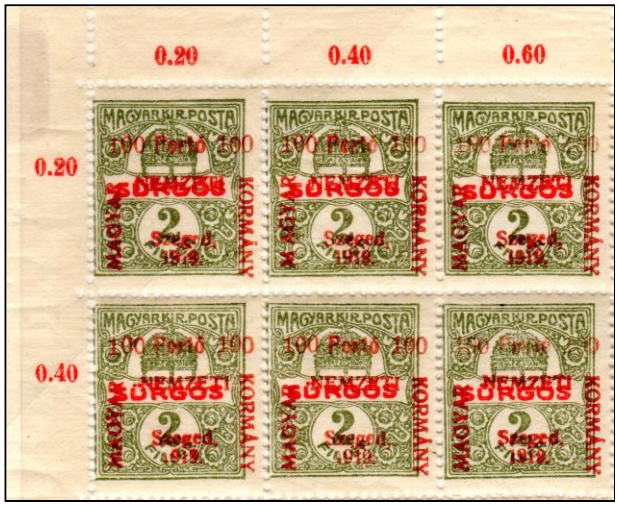


***Figure 29.** Faint impression of '100 Portó 100' on the stamps in the third column.*

Missing letter and numeral errors:

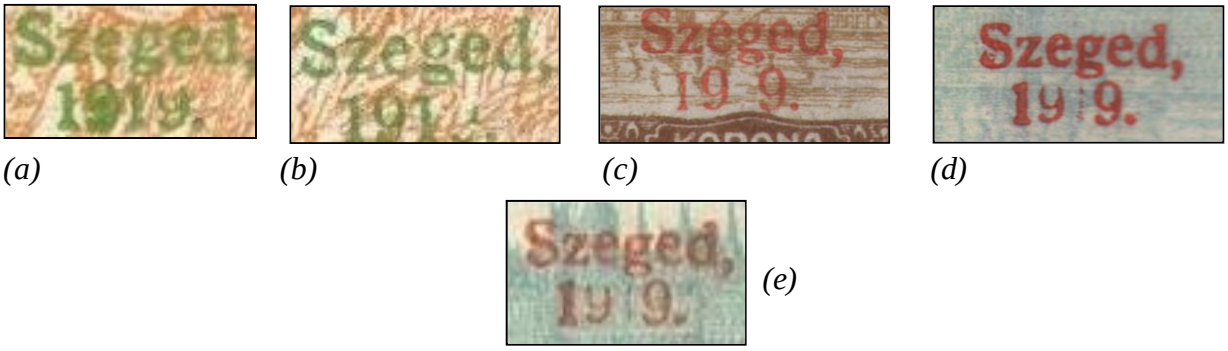
Missing or partially missing letters and numerals affect many stamps in the 5x10 printing form. Most of these errors show up in the word 'Szeged' and the date '1919.' No letters or numerals were missing at the beginning of the overprinting as exhibited in the nearly flawless overprints from the König shop. A few individual letters were poorly worked into the original form of 5 x 10 overprints, but many more became problematic as the overprinting progressed. Thus, all these missing letters and numerals can be considered progressive errors that started out correct but went bad as the printing progressed.

Missing numerals from '1919':

- 1919: The top half of the first '1' started off missing at positions 48 and 98 (See '***a***' in *Figure 30* below.). This problem eventually progressed until the number was totally missing.
- 1919: The top half of the '91' missing at positions 33 and 83 (See '**b**' in *Figure 30* below.)
- 1919: The top half of the second '1' is missing at positions 36 and 86 (see '**c**' in *Figure 30* below). This numeral is also partially missing at position 5 (see '**d**' in *Figure 30* below) and progressing to fully missing at position 55 (see '**e**' in *Figure 30* below).

***Figure 30.** Missing numerals from '1919.'*
(a) (b) (c) (d) (e)

- 1919: The second '9' started off very weak at positions 7 and 57 (see **'a'** in *Figure 31*) and progressed to fully missing (see **'b'** in *Figure 31* below).
- Missing numerals from the '1919' mainly affected only the Harvester and Newspaper stamps. On the Parliament stamps, the only missing numeral is the second '1' of '1919' at positions 5 (see **'c'** in *Figure 31* below) and 55 (see **'d'** in *Figure 31* below). It is also weak at positions 34 and 84 (see **'e'** in *Figure 31* below).
- The '1919' is pretty much intact on the Postage Due stamps.



(a) *(b)* *(c)* *(d)* *(e)*

Figure 31. *More missing numerals from '1919.'.*

Missing letters from 'Szeged,':

Missing letters from 'Szeged,' also mainly show up on the Harvester and Newspaper stamps.

- The 'z' in 'Szeged' is partially missing (see **'a'** in *Figure 32* below) and, eventually, completely missing in positions 38 and 88 (see **'b'** in *Figure 32* below).
- The 'z' is weak in positions 23 and 30 (see **'c'** in *Figure 32* below), while the 'z' is nearly missing in positions 73 and 80 (see **'d'** in *Figure 32* below).
- The 'z' is partially missing in positions 39 (see **'e'** in *Figure 32* below) and mostly missing in position 89 (see **'f'** in *Figure 32* below).

(a) *(b)* *(c)* *(d)* *(e)* *(f)*

Figure 32. *Missing letters in 'Szeged,'.*

- The final two places where the 'z' is nearly/mostly missing are found only on the lower half of the sheet in positions 75and 91 (see **'a'** and **'b'** in *Figure 33* below).
- The first 'e' of 'Szeged' is nearly missing in positions 28 and 78 (see **'c'** and **'d'** in *Figure 33* below).
- Two more places, again found on the lower half of sheets, show a mostly missing 'e' in position 56, which is completely missing in position 96 (see **'e'** in *Figure 33* below).

(a) *(b)* *(c)* *(d)* *(e)*

Figure 33. *More missing letter in 'Szeged,'.*

- On the Parliament stamps, there is a fully missing 'e' at position 6 (see **'a'** in *Figure 34* below) and partially missing 'e' at position 56 (see **'b'** in *Figure 34* below).
- On the Harvesters stamps, there is the 'g' of 'Szeged' that is partially missing in position 45 (see **'c'** in *Figure 34* below) and mostly missing in position 95 (see **'d'** in *Figure 34* below).

(a) *(b)* *(c)* *(d)*

Figure 34. *Missing letters in 'Szeged,'.*

Missing letters from 'NEMZETI' and 'KORMÁNY'

- The 'M' in 'NEMZETI' is partially missing in pos. 71 on the Harvesters stamps (see **'a'** in *Figure 35* below).
- The second 'E' in 'NEMZETI' is nearly missing in pos. 82 on the Harvesters stamps (see **'b'** in *Figure 35* below).
- The 'I' of 'NEMZETI' is shifted down in positions 32 and 82 on the Parliament stamps (see **'c'** in *Figure 35* below).
- The 'T' of 'NEMZETI' is slightly raised in positions 34 and 84 on the Parliament stamps (see **'d'** in *Figure 35* below).
- The 'R' of 'KORMÁNY' is missing/completely missing in positions 39 and 89 on the Parliament and Postage Due stamps (see **'e'** in *Figure 35* below).

(a) *(b)* *(c)* *(d)* *(e)*

Figure 35. *Missing letters in 'NEMZETI' and 'KORMÁNY'.*

All of the above listed missing letters or numerals are far more common as weakly printed, partially missing or nearly missing letters. If only a minor part of a letter is seen, it is a mostly missing letter. A 100% missing letter is the least common error type.

Observations about the missing or partially missing letter and numerals in the overprints

The progressive manifestation of these 'anomalies' increased greatly with the utilization of the printing form, especially at shop 2. The most frequent occurrence is on the Newspaper stamps that were the last to be overprinted at shop 2. When the work was returned to the König shop, the printing form was repaired as discussed above. At the same time, the settings of the letter type were corrected so all characters would print properly. The printing form was next used to overprint Express/*sürgős* 'portó' surcharges. Other than the characteristic flaws in typesetting of the

numerals, the missing characters are pretty much absent from these stamps. We no longer find the frequent partial/missing letters in the positions noted for the Harvester-sized stamps. When the printing form was next reconfigured for the Parliament stamps, a unique missing letter variety was introduced ('KO_MÁNY') for reasons unknown, and this variety was repeated on the Postage due overprints. Perhaps, it was not noticed because the rush was on to finish the work by a target date, say June 28th when the stamps were placed on sale. Still, the Parliament stamps do have missing or partially missing characters in a few positions.

Epilogue

The Post Office Directive No. 11 issued on 20 February 1920 stipulated that all overprinted stamps issued in the occupied areas of the country without the approval of the Hungarian Post were not valid for franking. (The one exception was the Baranya I issue that was sanctioned from Budapest.) The Szeged overprints fell into this grouping even though they were the legitimate issue of a government that should have been considered as the precursor of the government in power in 1920! However, in 1919, the Soviet government residing in Budapest was the legal government and its Postal Directorate did not authorize the overprints. The legal wrangling went on for years until 9 November 1923, when the Council of Ministers retroactively legitimized the issue. But, as Dr. Ettre concluded in his April 1972 article, this decision was never officially published as part of a Postal Directive, so its pedigree is still in limbo.

As a follow-up to this decision, the Postal Directorate ordered the Szeged post office to procure a set of overprints for the future stamp museum. Ignácz Székely, the previously mentioned Postal Comptroller of Szeged, expressed helplessness and responded that almost all stamps available in the marketplace are fakes since only 300 possible complete sets were made. He did contact the owner of 41 genuine stamps who was willing to make a trade for two sheets of the 35/50 Turul error, four sheets of the 600/800 Harvesters error, a complete set of sheets of the War Aid I issue, and 500kg of unsorted parcel slips from 1901-1915! The trade offer was shelved after Jenő Ács sold his specialized collection to the Stamp Museum in May 1925.

Early in 1920, a sufficient quantity of letter type was stolen from the König press shop by Henrik Heine and Endre Molnár in order to produce counterfeits. Their conspiracy resulted in 3,200 counterfeit stamps being made. These became the target of the lawsuit started by the local collectors' association. The verdict of February 1925 stipulated that the seized counterfeit stamps be destroyed. Whether this was carried out or not is unknown. What is known, according to Surányi, is that the names of Székely and Ács appeared in the list of buyers of the fake stamps.

Figure 36. *Cursive expertizing marks used by Mór Székely (Sz) and Jenő Ács (ÁcsJenő).*

Both have claimed to be experts in recognizing forgeries. It is also highly probable that fake overprints were among the stamps that Ács sold to the Stamp Museum. Surányi also referenced a publication by Ács: Katalog und Beschreibung der ungarischen Briefmarken "Magyar Nemzeti Kormány Szeged 1919" published by the Magyar Bélyeggyüjtőegyesület Szeged, in 1930.

Forgeries:

Lyman Caswell, in his two articles listed in the references, analyzed the overprints from the perspective of dimensions and the color spectrum analysis of the overprint. His source material came from forgeries produced by Géza Tarján, as well as other forgers identified by Varro Tyler. According to Lyman, Tarján's fakes were so good that they had to have been produced using the original letter type. Whether Tarján actually made these fakes or marketed the stamps salvaged from the lot that was fabricated by Heine and Molnár is mere speculation. [The authors do believe that more than the 3,200 stamps mentioned in the Epilogue may have been produced given the large quantity of 'good-looking' fakes in the philatelic marketplace.]

In the *Evaluation of Forensic Methods for Overprint Analysis* article, Lyman writes about Heinz Pape: "The mark 'PAPE' of Géza Tarján's temporary associate German stamp dealer Heinz Pape represents a special case. The 'Good Pape' mark, indicating a genuine stamp, is clean-cut and neat with all letters very clear, made with a fine, metal stamp which cut into the paper, and was usually applied at the lower left corner of the stamp. Its dimensions are 1.25 x 2.5 mm. The 'Bad Pape' marks may appear on both counterfeit and genuine stamps. They have either broken letters or smearing, or both. They are believed to have been made with rubber stamps and are of variable size. According to Kock [*Philatelic Experts*, http://www.filatelia.fi.experts], some of the 'Bad Pape' marks are forgeries made by Tarján after the two dealers ended their business arrangement in 1921." Examples are shown below.

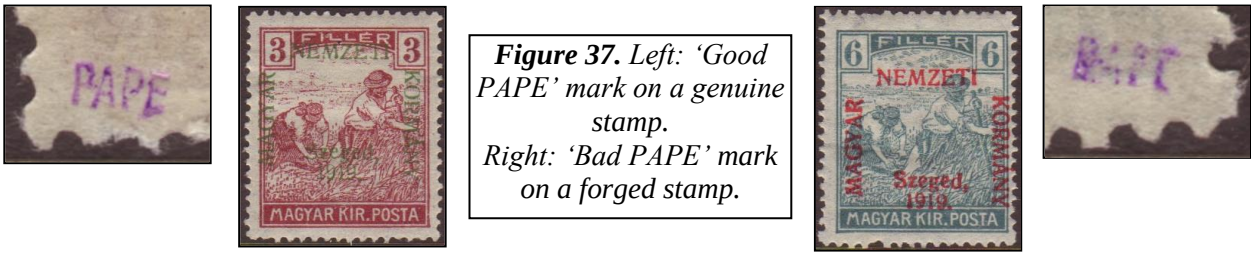


Figure 37. *Left: 'Good PAPE' mark on a genuine stamp. Right: 'Bad PAPE' mark on a forged stamp.*

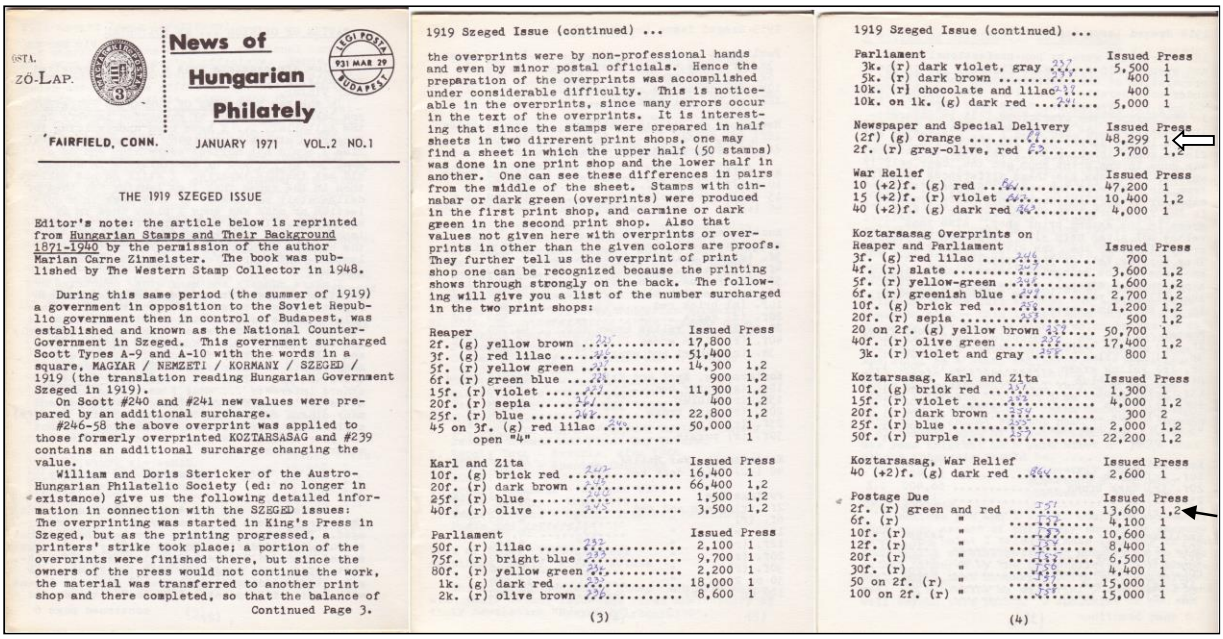
Of course, there were other forgers of the Szeged overprints. In this respect, Lyman's description of the alignment of the letters in 'Szeged, / 1919.' with respect to each other serves as an essential 'tool' in identifying genuine overprints - "Some of the forged Szeged overprints are, however, easily distinguishable by the placement of the date '1919.'." In the genuine overprints, the second '1' of '1919 is below the left edge of the 'g' of 'Szeged.' In the counterfeits, the date is shifted to the right, so that the second '1' of '1919' is below the center of the 'g.'" (Note the correct alignment in the trial proof print [courtesy of the late Dr. Paul Szilagyi] in *Figure 38* on the left and see the difference in the alignment from the forgery shown in *Figure 39*).

Figure 38. *Trial proof print.*

Lyman continued his forensic study by analyzing the measurements of the overprint, similar to what the authors did in *Table 1*. He found that counterfeit Harvesters-design stamps could not be differentiated by overprint measurements. However, the vertical distance on the counterfeit Parliament stamps was almost double the distance of the genuine ones. He concluded that the Harvesters setting for the overprint was used in counterfeiting the Parliament overprints. In addition, the horizontal distance of counterfeit overprints on the postage dues was significantly smaller than the genuine overprints. The counterfeiters did not use correct distances. The stamps with wrong dimensions also showed a significant color difference from the genuine ones.

Figure 39. *Forgery made using the original lettertype. One genuine sheet of the inverted overprint on the 6f Harvester/Köztársaság stamp exists from shop 2. The enlargement of 'Szeged, / 1919.' above shows that the second '1' in '1919.' aligns with the middle of the 'g' in 'Szeged,' indicating forgery as described by Lyman Caswell.*

Zinmeister listing of the overprints:



News of Hungarian Philately

FAIRFIELD, CONN. JANUARY 1971 VOL.2 NO.1

THE 1919 SZEGED ISSUE

Editor's note: the article below is reprinted from Hungarian Stamps and Their Background 1871-1940 by the permission of the author Marian Carne Zinmeister. The book was published by The Western Stamp Collector in 1948.

During this same period (the summer of 1919) a government in opposition to the Soviet Republic government then in control of Budapest, was established and known as the National Counter-Government in Szeged. This government surcharged Scott Types A-9 and A-10 with the words in a square, MAGYAR / NEMZETI / KORMANY / SZEGED / 1919 (the translation reading Hungarian Government Szeged in 1919).

On Scott #240 and #241 new values were prepared by an additional surcharge.

#246-58 the above overprint was applied to those formerly overprinted KOZTARSASAG and #239 contains an additional surcharge changing the value.

William and Doris Stericker of the Austro-Hungarian Philatelic Society (ed: no longer in existance) give us the following detailed information in connection with the SZEGED issues: The overprinting was started in King's Press in Szeged, but as the printing progressed, a printers' strike took place; a portion of the overprints were finished there, but since the owners of the press would not continue the work, the material was transferred to another print shop and there completed, so that the balance of

Continued Page 3.

1919 Szeged Issue (continued) ...

the overprints were by non-professional hands and even by minor postal officials. Hence the preparation of the overprints was accomplished under considerable difficulty. This is noticeable in the overprints, since many errors occur in the text of the overprints. It is interesting that since the stamps were prepared in half sheets in two dirrerent print shops, one may find a sheet in which the upper half (50 stamps) was done in one print shop and the lower half in another. One can see these differences in pairs from the middle of the sheet. Stamps with cinnabar or dark green (overprints) were produced in the first print shop, and carmine or dark green in the second print shop. Also that values not given here with overprints or overprints in other than the given colors are proofs. They further tell us the overprint of print shop one can be recognized because the printing shows through strongly on the back. The following will give you a list of the number surcharged in the two print shops:

Reaper	Issued	Press
2f. (g) yellow brown	17,800	1
3f. (g) red lilac	51,400	1
5f. (r) yellow green	14,300	1,2
6f. (r) green blue	900	1,2
15f. (r) violet	11,300	1,2
20f. (r) sepia	400	1,2
25f. (r) blue	22,800	1,2
45 on 3f. (g) red lilac	50,000	1
open "4"		1

Karl and Zita	Issued	Press
10f. (g) brick red	16,400	1
20f. (r) dark brown	66,400	1,2
25f. (r) blue	1,500	1,2
40f. (r) olive	3,500	1,2

Parliament	Issued	Press
50f. (r) lilac	2,100	1
75f. (r) bright blue	9,700	1
80f. (r) yellow green	2,200	1
1k. (g) dark red	18,000	1
2k. (r) olive brown	8,600	1

(3)

1919 Szeged Issue (continued) ...

Parliament	Issued	Press
3k. (r) dark violet, gray	5,500	1
5k. (r) dark brown	400	1
10k. (r) chocolate and lilac	400	1
10k. on 1k. (g) dark red	5,000	1

Newspaper and Special Delivery	Issued	Press
(2f) (g) orange	48,299	1
2f. (r) gray-olive, red	3,700	1,2

War Relief	Issued	Press
10 (+2)f. (g) red	47,200	1
15 (+2)f. (r) violet	10,400	1,2
40 (+2)f. (g) dark red	4,000	1

Koztarsasag Overprints on Reaper and Parliament	Issued	Press
3f. (g) red lilac	700	1
4f. (r) slate	3,600	1,2
5f. (r) yellow-green	1,600	1,2
6f. (r) greenish blue	2,700	1,2
10f. (g) brick red	1,200	1,2
20f. (r) sepia	500	1,2
20 on 2f. (g) yellow brown	50,700	1
40f. (r) olive green	17,400	1,2
3k. (r) violet and gray	800	1

Koztarsasag, Karl and Zita	Issued	Press
10f. (g) brick red	1,300	1
15f. (r) violet	4,000	1,2
20f. (r) dark brown	300	2
25f. (r) blue	2,000	1,2
50f. (r) purple	22,200	1,2

Koztarsasag, War Relief	Issued	Press
40 (+2)f. (g) dark red	2,600	1

Postage Due	Issued	Press
2f. (r) green and red	13,600	1,2
6f. (r) "	4,100	1
10f. (r) "	10,600	1
12f. (r) "	8,400	1
20f. (r) "	6,500	1
30f. (r) "	4,400	1
50 on 2f. (r) "	15,000	1
100 on 2f. (r) "	15,000	1

(4)

Zinmeister's article, reproduced from the January 1971 issue of **The News of Hungarian Philately**, indicated that the 2f Postage Due stamp was also overprinted in shop 2. The authors suspect that this is bad data since the Postage Due stamps were the last to be overprinted back in shop 1. By that time, the printing form had been returned to the König shop that did not use the carmine color ink. The listing also shows the (2f) Newspaper stamp overprint as originating from shop 1 (see ◁ above). This is also wrong since all these stamps were overprinted in shop 2.

Color Proofs:

Since only one printing form was used to print the entire Szeged overprint issue and all sheets of similar size were overprinted completely before the next sized sheets were printed, how and why were the color overprint proofs created? It could be that when the overprinting began, it was planned to use only green ink for the overprint color. Both surcharged Harvester stamps looked fine with a green overprint. It was not until the printers got to the other Harvester values that they realized that green ink would not work well on some of the stamps. They tried a green ink overprint on the 5f, 15f Harvester, 25f Magyar Posta Harvester and the 20f Karl stamps. When the trial didn't produce an acceptable overprint, red ink was used to overprint these issues. When it came to do the Parliament stamps, they checked to see if green worked with the violet 50f value. A green overprint was also tested on the Postage Due stamps. Proof printings exist on only a single sheet of Parliament and one sheet of the Postage due stamp.

Figure 40. *Red and green trial prints demonstrating that these colors did not work well with some stamps.*

Final note on the color of the overprints:

In general, there is no discernable difference between the two printing shops using the green color for the overprints. The difference occurs in the red overprints. The König shop used red/brick red ink while shop 2 used carmine-shade red ink (see *Figure 41*).

Figure 41. *Comparison of the red color (left & top) used at the König shop and carmine color (right & bottom) used at shop 2 on the 40f & 50f Zita stamps.*

Acknowledgement:

Credit for the research behind this article belongs to Chris Brainard, who painstakingly looked over dozens of sheets, examining each character in each overprint before arriving at the 'eureka' moment that led to the realization as to the sequence of the overprinting. Csaba Kohalmi provided the historical background, formatted the illustrations, and did the wordsmithing. In between, the two of them exchanged countless emails and spent hours via Skype hashing out their theories until they arrived at the consensus presented in this article.

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SPECIMEN ALBUMS, REPRINTS AND COMPLETE SHEETS MADE FOR THE WORLD'S FAIRS WITH SPECIAL ATTENTION TO THE DECEPTIVE MARKETING OF SPECIMEN ITEMS

by **Károly Szücs**
(Translated from Hungarian by Csaba L. Kohalmi)

The first of the acclaimed researchers of the criteria that made possible the reconstruction of sheets of classical stamps was Béla Payer, who was born in the middle of the 19th century. Others, who were active in the middle of the 20th century were Elemér Czakó, Sándor Visnya, Jan Palmans, and Gyula Madarász, as well as the three noted authors who were published in the pages of the **Philatelica** in the 1970s and 80s: Ferenc Orbán, Dr. Tivadar Petrovits, and László Pákozdi. It would be a fitting start to this article to be able to illustrate all of their portraits; unfortunately, I was not able to find a picture for two of them, yet (*Figure 1a*).

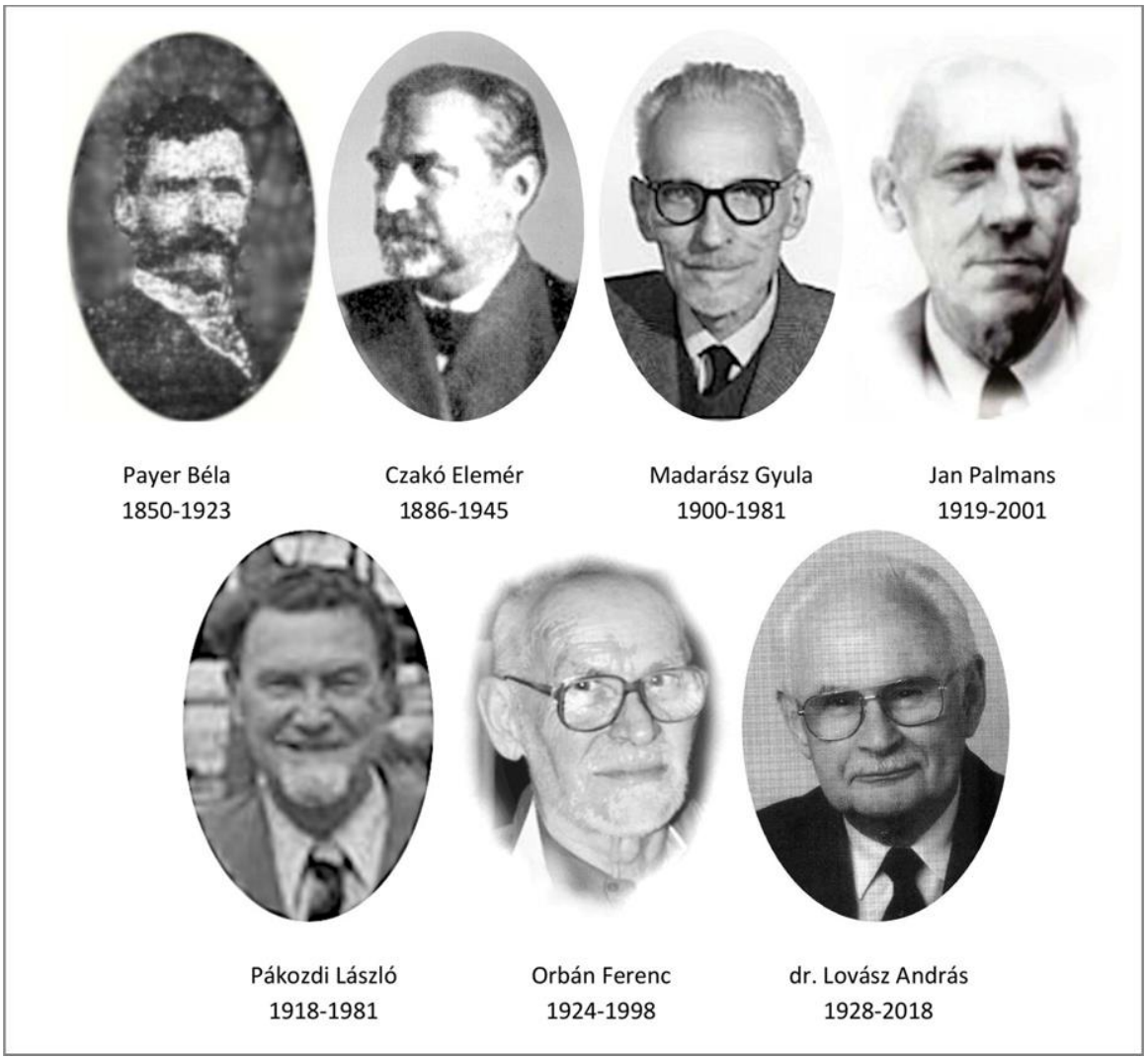


Figure 1a. *The great standouts from all of the philatelists who researched the criteria for sheet reconstruction.*

In addition to using the material in their possession, all of them relied on complete sheets printed on cardboard bound in various albums that survived from the so-called contemporary specimen printings. András Lovász's marvelous contribution to this philatelic effort was the book *A szinesszámú krajcáros bélyegek és metszetjavítások* / **Colored Numeral Krajcár Stamps and Engraving Repairs** that was published by Mafitt in 2008. Naturally, the surviving reprints and complete sheets in the possession of the Stamp Museum also supported this effort.

In the course of researching the sheet positions of the classical revenue stamps, I also made use of the indispensable information offered by the discovery of sheets from Volume II of the specimen albums printed for the world's fairs. These were made available for viewing during the Mafitt World Symposium in 2004 through the efforts of Dr. Erzsébet Novotny, a member of Mafitt, and Mrs. József Földi, who is the librarian of the Ministry of Finance, an office that did not exist back then.

Figure 1b. *Open pages of the specimen albums reveal their wonders at the 2004 Mafitt World Symposium.*

In Volume III of the **Monograph**[1], Gyula Madarász describes the origins and the printing characteristics of the albums containing new printings of the 1871 issue that were prepared on three separate occasions. In the case all kinds of postal issues, he provides extensive detail. Nevertheless, the basic role of these printings, as well as their great significance, is relatively unheralded in our philatelic literature. I find that now is a good time to summarize all that we

[1] **Monograph Volume III**, p. 497. English translation is available on the internet: www.mafitt.hu/monograph

know about these specimen sheets and to present the books and the reprints in one article with an emphasis on the unfortunate deceptions encountered occasionally in the course of buying and selling these specimen sheets.

Specimen albums. The first time that the Minister of Finance ordered specimen sheets from the State Printing Office under its jurisdiction was for the 1878 Paris World's Fair. The printing of every stamp and stationery issued through the end of 1877 was made on 46.5x58.5 cm multi-layered cardboard paper in an edition of only 12 copies according to Gyula Madarász[2]. The aftermath of Franco-Prussian war resulted in the unification of Germany; but since Germany stayed away from the exhibition, the losing French side found it especially important to include the representative of the last remaining large German-speaking area that was left out of the German confederation, the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy. The exhibition was a decidedly French initiative, and great importance was placed on showcasing the economic development and the culture of the participating countries. In the pursuit of these lofty goals, the organizers were willing to provide extensive financial and political concessions. However, even under these favourable circumstances, Hungary, despite its existence as an independent state for more than a decade, was not able to get an invitation to participate separately, but only as a part of the Austro-Hungarian Dual Monarchy.

This was despite the fact that Hungary had already been an independent exhibitor at the Vienna World's Fair held five years earlier on the basis of its recently regained statehood. This provided an especially important introduction for the up-and-coming Hungarian economy on the international stage. For the 1878 World's Fair, our country placed great emphasis on promoting Hungarian nationhood and all efforts were focused on this objective. One means of achieving this was to present stamps as proof of our nation's independence to an international audience. The specimen albums were created specifically with this in mind.

For this occasion, three horizontal format leather-bound books were produced binding together the specimen sheets that were sequentially numbered with Roman numerals. Each volume was titled in French and Hungarian and came with a table of contents. The weight of each book was significant, quite a few kilograms. The first volume contained the security papers printed by the national government; the second, the revenue stamps; the third, postage stamps and stationery. The set of three provided a unified example of the inseparable relationship between *numismatics*, *fiscal philately*, and *postal philately* regarding types of stamps and stationery.

Only volume III, containing the postage stamps and stationery can be found in the library of the Stamp Museum (*Figure 2a*). The plates of the 1871 issue, last used in 1874 to print that series, were utilized for printing the postage stamps or, perhaps, fresh copies of the printing plates were made from the mother plates kept in house. Also, for the printing of the 1874 colored-numeral envelope design stamps, a copy was made from the master plate I for the 2, 3, 10, and 20 krajcár values, while a copy from master plate II was used for the 5 krajcár value.

[2] **Monograph III.** p. 497

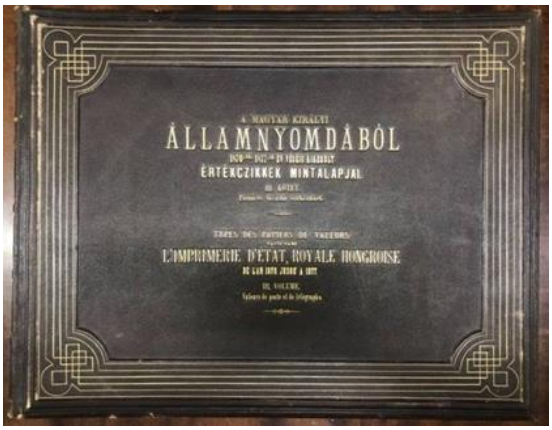


Figure 2a. The Stamp Museum's copy of Volume III containing the postage stamps and postal stationery. Another copy with a Hungarian-only cover is known to exist.

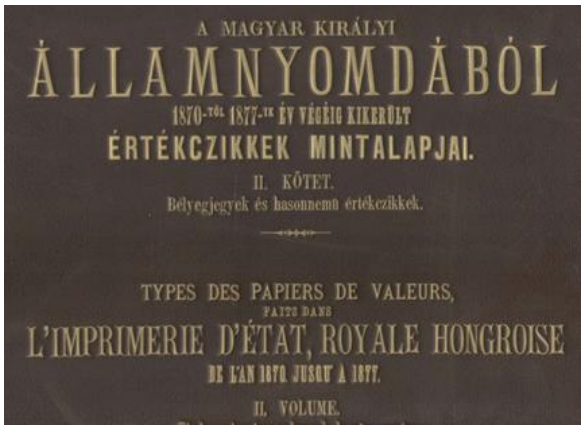
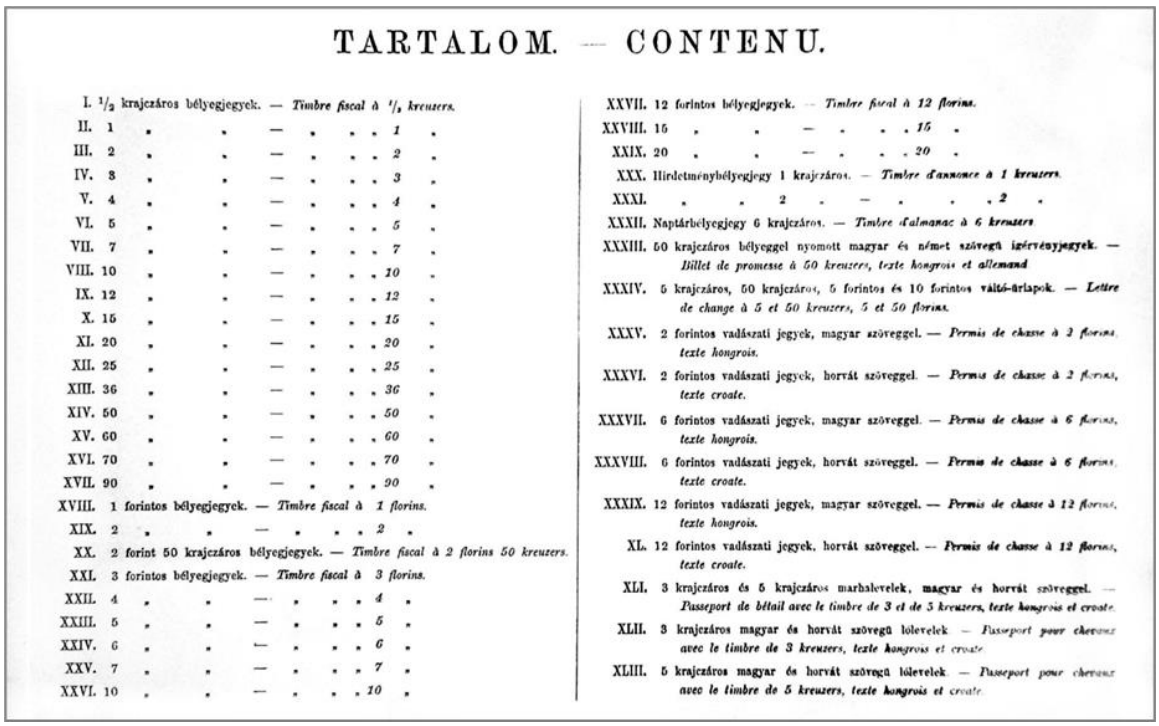


Figure 2b. The cover inscription of Volume II from the library of the Ministry of the Economy of the first specimen album from 1878 containing the revenue stamps.

Volume II containing the revenue stamps (*Figure 2a*) was printed from the plates transferred from Vienna in 1870. The volume contains the 29 denominations of the documentary revenue stamps, called "stamp labels" back then, the advertising and almanac tax stamps (up until that time, the newspaper tax stamps had not been printed domestically and are missing), and typographed forms with imprinted revenue indicia. The total number of pages is 43 (*Figure 3a*).



TARTALOM. — CONTENU.

I. ½ krajczáros bélyegjegyek. — *Timbre fiscal à ½ kreuzers.*
II. 1 . . — . . . *1* .
III. 2 . . — . . . *2* .
IV. 3 . . — . . . *3* .
V. 4 . . — . . . *4* .
VI. 5 . . — . . . *5* .
VII. 7 . . — . . . *7* .
VIII. 10 . . — . . . *10* .
IX. 12 . . — . . . *12* .
X. 15 . . — . . . *15* .
XI. 20 . . — . . . *20* .
XII. 25 . . — . . . *25* .
XIII. 36 . . — . . . *36* .
XIV. 50 . . — . . . *50* .
XV. 60 . . — . . . *60* .
XVI. 70 . . — . . . *70* .
XVII. 90 . . — . . . *90* .
XVIII. 1 forintos bélyegjegyek. — *Timbre fiscal à 1 florins.*
XIX. 2 . . — . . . *2* .
XX. 2 forint 50 krajczáros bélyegjegyek. — *Timbre fiscal à 2 florins 50 kreuzers.*
XXI. 3 forintos bélyegjegyek. — *Timbre fiscal à 3 florins.*
XXII. 4 . . — . . . *4* .
XXIII. 5 . . — . . . *5* .
XXIV. 6 . . — . . . *6* .
XXV. 7 . . — . . . *7* .
XXVI. 10 . . — . . . *10* .
XXVII. 12 forintos bélyegjegyek. — *Timbre fiscal à 12 florins.*
XXVIII. 15 . . — . . . *15* .
XXIX. 20 . . — . . . *20* .
XXX. Hirdetménybélyegjegy 1 krajczáros. — *Timbre d'annonce à 1 kreuzers.*
XXXI. . . 2 . — . . . *2* .
XXXII. Naptárbélyegjegy 6 krajczáros. — *Timbre d'almanac à 6 kreuzers.*
XXXIII. 50 krajczáros bélyeggel nyomott magyar és német szövegü igérvényjegyek. — *Billet de promesse à 50 kreuzers, texte hongrois et allemand.*
XXXIV. 5 krajczáros, 50 krajczáros, 5 forintos és 10 forintos váltó-ürlapok. — *Lettre de change à 5 et 50 kreuzers, 5 et 50 florins.*
XXXV. 2 forintos vadászati jegyek, magyar szöveggel. — *Permis de chasse à 2 florins, texte hongrois.*
XXXVI. 2 forintos vadászati jegyek, horvát szöveggel. — *Permis de chasse à 2 florins, texte croate.*
XXXVII. 6 forintos vadászati jegyek, magyar szöveggel. — *Permis de chasse à 6 florins, texte hongrois.*
XXXVIII. 6 forintos vadászati jegyek, horvát szöveggel. — *Permis de chasse à 6 florins, texte croate.*
XXXIX. 12 forintos vadászati jegyek, magyar szöveggel. — *Permis de chasse à 12 florins, texte hongrois.*
XL. 12 forintos vadászati jegyek, horvát szöveggel. — *Permis de chasse à 12 florins, texte croate.*
XLI. 3 krajczáros és 5 krajczáros marhalevelek, magyar és horvát szöveggel. — *Passeport de bétail avec le timbre de 3 et de 5 kreuzers, texte hongrois et croate.*
XLII. 3 krajczáros magyar és horvát szövegü lólevelek. — *Passeport pour chevaux avec le timbre de 3 kreuzers, texte hongrois et croate.*
XLIII. 5 krajczáros magyar és horvát szövegü lólevelek. — *Passeport pour chevaux avec le timbre de 5 kreuzers, texte hongrois et croate.*

Figure 3a. *The table of contents from the 1878 volume II containing fiscal stamps and forms.*

The contents of volume III of the specimen album for the issues between 1870-1877 encompasses the 1871 and 1874 "mailing labels," the telegraph stamps, and the related forms with imprinted indicia on a total of 36 pages. The contents differ extensively from what was printed in the Monograph, as it mistakenly used the contents of the later specimen album created in 1900 as its source:

TARTALOM. — CONTENU.

I. Régi jelvényü 2 krajczáros levéljegyek. — *Timbres-postes à emblème ancien à 2 kreuzer.*
II. „ „ 3 „ „ „ — „ „ „ „ „ „ 3 „
III. „ „ 5 „ „ „ — „ „ „ „ „ „ 5 „
IV. „ „ 10 „ „ „ — „ „ „ „ „ „ 10 „
V. „ „ 15 „ „ „ — „ „ „ „ „ „ 15 „
VI. „ „ 25 „ „ „ — „ „ „ „ „ „ 25 „
VII. „ „ hirlapjegyek. — *Timbres-postes pour affranchir les gazettes à emblème ancien.*
VIII. Régi jelvényü 10 krajczáros levéljegygyel nyomott magyar-olasz szövegü postautánvételi jegyek. — *Mandats pour encaissement avec un timbre-poste à ancien emblème à 10 kreuzer, au texte hongrois et italien.*
IX. Régi jelvényü 2 krajczáros magyar-német szövegü levelezési lapok és keresztkötési szalagok. — *Cartes-correspondance à ancien emblème à 2 kreuzer, au texte hongrois et allemand; — bandes à affranchir des imprimés avec un timbre-poste à ancien emblème à 2 kreuzer.*
X. Régi jelvényü 5 krajczáros levéljegygyel nyomott magyar, magyar-olasz és magyar-horvát szövegü postautalványok. — *Mandats de poste, avec un timbre à ancien emblème à 5 kreuzer, au texte hongrois, hongrois-italien et hongrois-croate.*
XI. Régi jelvényü 5 krajczáros bélyeggel nyomott magyar, magyar-olasz és magyar-horvát szövegü szállitólevelek. — *Lettres de voiture, avec un timbre-finance à ancien emblème à 5 kreuzer, au texte hongrois, hongrois-italien et hongrois-croate.*
XII. Régi jelvényü 5 krajczáros bélyeggel nyomott magyar szövegü utánvételi szállitólevelek. — *Lettres de voiture avec mandat de remboursement pour des envois de messagerie avec un timbre-finance à ancien emblème à 5 kreuzer, au texte hongrois.*
XIII. Régi jelvényü 5 krajczáros bélyeggel nyomott magyar-olasz és magyar-horvát szövegü utánvételi szállitólevelek. — *Lettres de voiture avec mandat de remboursement pour des envois de messagerie avec un timbre-finance à ancien emblème à 5 kreuzer, au texte hongrois-italien et hongrois-croate.*
XIV. Régi jelvényü 3, 5 és 10 krajczáros levéljegygyel nyomott levélboritékok. — *Enveloppes avec un timbre-poste à 3, 5 et 10 kreuzer, à ancien emblème.*
XV. Régi jelvényü 15 krajczáros és 25 krajczáros levéljegygyel nyomott levélboritékok. — *Enveloppes avec un timbre-poste à 15 et 25 kreuzer, à ancien emblème.*
XVI. Ujjelvényü 2 krajczáros levéljegyek. — *Timbres-postes à nouvel emblème à 2 kreuzer.*
XVII. „ 3 „ „ „ — „ „ „ „ „ „ 3 „
XVIII. „ 5 „ „ „ — „ „ „ „ „ „ 5 „
XIX. Ujjelvényü 10 krajczáros levéljegyek. — *Timbres-postes à nouvel emblème à 10 kreuzer.*
XX. „ 20 „ „ „ — „ „ „ „ „ „ 20 „
XXI. „ hirlapjegyek. — *Timbres-postes pour les gazettes, à nouvel emblème.*
XXII. „ 10 krajczáros levéljegygyel nyomott magyar és magyar-olasz szövegü utánvételi jegyek, és 5 krajczáros bélyegjegygyel magyar-olasz szövegü utánvételi szállitólevelek. — *Mandats pour encaissement avec un timbre-poste à nouvel emblème à 10 kreuzer, au texte hongrois, hongrois-italien; — lettres de voiture avec mandat de remboursement pour des envois de messagerie aves un timbre-finance à nouvel emblème à 5 kreuzer, au texte hongrois-italien.*
XXIII. Ujjelvényü 5 krajczáros levéljegygyel nyomott magyar, magyar-olasz és magyar-horvát szövegü belföldi postautalványok. — *Mandats de poste pour le service interne avec un timbre-poste à nouvel emblème à 5 kreuzer, au texte hongrois, hongrois-italien et hongrois-croate.*
XXIV. Ujjelvényü 10 krajczáros levéljegygyel nyomott külföldre szóló postautalványok és 2 krajczáros levelező-lapok. — *Mandats de poste pour le service international avec un timbre-poste à nouvel emblème à 10 kreuzer; — cartes-correspondance avec un timbre-poste á nouvel emblème à 2 kreuzer.*
XXV. Ujjelvényü 5 krajczáros bélyegjegygyel nyomott magyar, magyar-olasz és magyar-horvát szövegü szállitólevelek. — *Lettres de voiture avec un timbre-finance à nouvel emblème à 5 kreuzer, au texte hongrois, hongrois-italien et hongrois-croate.*
XXVI. Ujjelvényü 5 krajczáros bélyegjegygyel nyomott magyar és magyar-horvát szövegü utánvételi szállitólevelek. — *Lettres de voiture avec mandat de remboursement pour des envois de messagerie avec un timbre-finance à nouvel emblème à 5 kreuzer, au texte hongrois et hongrois-croate.*
XXVII. Ujjelvényü 3, 5 és 10 krajczáros levélboritékok. — *Enveloppes avec un timbre-poste à nouvel emblème à 3, 5 et 10 kreuzer.*
XXVIII. 5 krajczáros távirdai dijjegyek. — *Timbres-télégraphes à 5 kreuzer.*
XXIX. 10 „ „ „ — „ „ 10 „
XXX. 20 „ „ „ — „ „ 20 „
XXXI. 25 „ „ „ — „ „ 25 „
XXXII. 40 „ „ „ — „ „ 40 „
XXXIII. 50 „ „ „ — „ „ 50 „
XXXIV. 1 forintos „ „ — „ „ 1 florin.
XXXV. 2 „ „ „ — „ „ 2 „
XXXVI. 50 krajczáros távirdai sürgönylapok és 5 krajczáros feladóvevények. — *Blancs télégraphes à 50 kreuzer; — bulletins de depôt à 5 kreuzer.*

Figure 3b. *Table of contents showing the postage stamps and stationery forms from the 1878 volume III.*

The next set of specimen albums was prepared for the World's Fair in Paris in 1900. It was prepared in a slightly different format using wider, 62 cm sheets. It contained the stamps and stationery items produced through 1899. The leather binding on the second set of books differs from the first set. It is cherry red in color instead of dark brown.

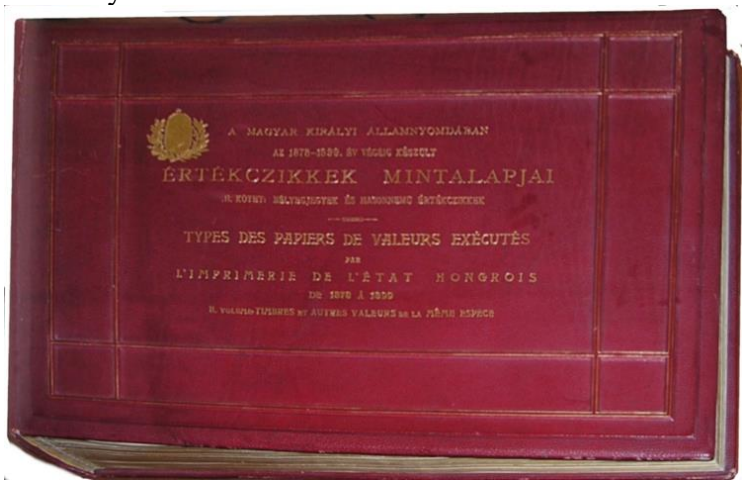

A MAGYAR KIRÁLYI ÁLLAMNYOMDÁBAN
ÉRTÉKCZIKKEK MINTALAPJAI
TYPES DES PAPIERS DE VALEURS EXÉCUTÉS
L'IMPRIMERIE DE L'ÉTAT HONGROIS

Figure 3c. *Volume II of the specimen album from 1900 from the library of the Ministry of Agriculture.*

My current understanding is that volumes I and II can be found only in the library of the Ministry of the Economy. It is possible that other volumes could also be found in the Library of Parliament; although, sadly, I did not find any listing via my online search.

Reprints. In order to satisfy collector demand for the stamps of the 1871 issue after the sale of the remaining obsolete stamps in 1878, a reprinting of these stamps was done in January of 1883. One hundred sheets of each denomination, 10,000 stamps total, were printed. Only 18 sheets of the 1871 newspaper stamp were printed, for a total of 1,800 stamps.[3] As a follow-up to my sheet reconstruction research last year, with the assistance of the staff at the Stamp Museum, I found that the printing plates that were stored at the securities warehouse were actually copies used to make the new plates for reprinting the 1871 engraved stamps. These were the same plates used to print the sheets for the presentation albums. The main characteristic differentiating the reprints from the originals is well known – the reprints were printed on pre-gummed paper with "kr" watermark, which did not exist in 1871, and with $11^1/_2$ line perforation.

Presentation album. On the occasion of the 20th anniversary of domestic stamp production in 1891, the Ministry of Commerce prepared printings of all postal and telegraph stamps using the original master plates on approximately 44x59.5 cm cardboard paper. Evidently, the plates used to make the 1883 reprints of the 1871 issue had been saved and were reused. These vertical format, rectangular-shaped reprints were bound in an ornate book, the cover of which was decorated with metallic inserts. Contrary to original plans, the stamps of the 1867 issue could not be included for lack of original printing plates. The contents of the album therefore bely the period indicated by the dates "1867-1890" on the cover, because it includes only the postage stamps and stationery produced in Hungary starting in 1871 (*Figures 4a-b*).

Figures 4a-b. *Unfortunately, the presentation album does not contain a table of contents. (The Stamp Museum has only one copy of this publication. The pictures are reproduced with permission.)*

[3] **Monograph III.** p. 504.

Sándor Visnya, whose research was conducted in the late 1950s in the Stamp Museum, discovered that the sheets contained in this volume were printed using new plates that were different from the ones used in 1878.[4] During the preparation of the presentation album, a large number of cardboard sheets were printed, enough to make a third album later, with plenty of unbound sheets left over. I saw a bunch of these myself in the Stamp Museum. There are rumors, these good quality cardboard sheets were even used as drawer liners in the printing office. Eventually, some of them found their way into collectors' hands, who later cut them apart in the timeless "quest to make money."[5]

Post-1900 specimen sheets. Even after the third presentation album was assembled, the State Printing Office continued to print specimen sheets on cardboard. Evidently, the idea behind this was to not have to rely on reusing old printing plates that were past their prime in case a presentation album needed to be assembled for a future exhibition. With the advent of World War I, there was no chance of Hungarian participation in another world's fair, so there are no bound albums from this era.

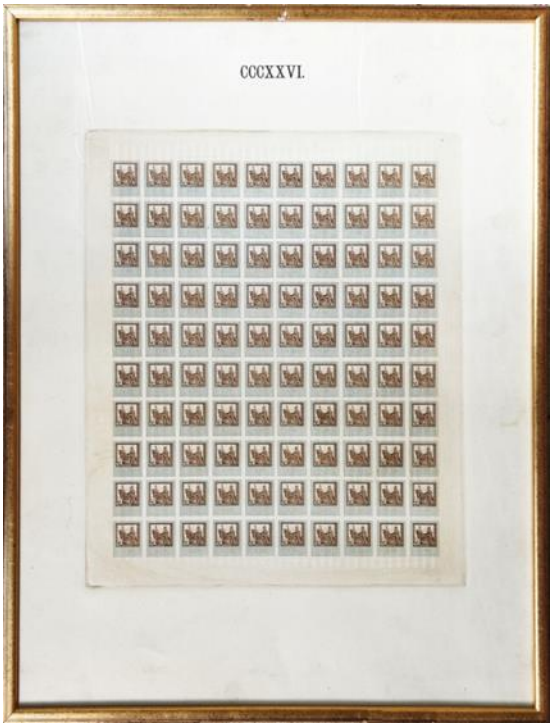


Figure 5a. *The 2 korona denomination from the 1914 revenue issue printed on cardboard paper.*

As far as these specimen sheets are concerned, we do not consider these printings as reprints as they were specimen printings made concurrently with regular issues. Obviously, these stamps were produced using the original printing plates made to print the stamps for circulation. Each page continued to be numbered sequentially. The 2 korona revenue stamp from 1914, shown here, is the highest numbered sheet (326) of which I am aware (*Figure 5a)*.

It is still unclear as to how many specimen sheets of post-1900 postage stamps can be found in the Stamp Museum. Theoretically, these should exist until the end of the monarchy; that is, all issues prior to the first overprints in 1918. The latest item that I have encountered in an auction so far is a 1913 Flood Aid stamp. Cutouts from this sheet are being offered at a domestic auction even as this article is being written. It will be a future philatelic research project to determine which other stamp issues and denominations still exist printed on cardboard paper. Most likely, these unbound sheets are in private hands.

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[4] **Monograph III.** p. 499.

[5] See Otto G. Schäffling's write-up "Official Reprint Album of Hungarian Stamps, 1871-1890" published in the January-March 1992 issue of The News of Hungarian Philately about his visit to the Stamp Museum. Otto speculated that these printings cut apart and thinned from cardboard stock are the source of "authentic" imperforate stamps offered in auctions. – Csaba L. Kohalmi

Figure 5b. *Cardboard printing of the municipal revenue stamp of Pécs.*

Privately owned sheets of revenue stamps printed on cardboard could contain irreplaceable information for sheet reconstruction. To date, the Stamp Museum has unfortunately not collected this together for the revenue stamps. If anyone owns any examples of these printed on cardboard, please let me know which complete sheets they have in their possession. Scanned images of these should be made a public treasure.

Since several of our larger cities did not use local printers but contracted the State Printing Office to print their municipal revenue stamps, I have the opportunity to show a complete sheet of the 1908 1 korona revenue stamp from Pécs. It is possible that this is the only example in existence (*Figure 5b*)!

Complete sheets held by collectors are seldom offered at auction, much less at realistic prices. Because it is easier to sell individual pieces, many of these specimen sheets arrive at auctions cut apart. (*Figure 6a*).

Figure 6a. *Cutouts from the specimen printings of postage stamps.*

Figure 6b. *Cutouts originating from a mutilated cardboard print of the telegraph stamps.*

To drive up the selling price, these are frequently and deceptively described as more desirable "trial prints" to attract exhibitors. Complete sheets offered at, in my opinion, unrealistic prices of over HUF100,000 (~US$335) do not find takers, while smaller cuttings, especially with a deceptive lot description to fool the buyers, can reach bids in the range of HUF2-3,000. As we have seen in auctions regularly, there is less of a demand for examples of the telegraph stamps printed on cardboard (*Figure 6b*).

Figure 6c. Cutouts from a cardboard print of revenue stamps and a specimen printing of the hunting permit card.

Frequently, all of the other types of stamps do turn up at inflated prices relative to their availability with the basic mislabeling of "rarities." This also applies to stationery items, most frequently, the hunting permit cards printed on cardboard (*Figure 6c*).

Eager and gullible collectors seem to be easily exploited by sellers of the hunting permit cards cut from a cardboard sheet with 3 copies, who offer these as unused stationery either out of ignorance or with the intent to swindle. They claim that these are extraordinary rarities and ask many hundreds of thousands of forints for them. Their realistic market value is much less, about HUF10,000 (~US$33). The hunting permit cards were subject to strict accounting, so they were not available to collectors during their period of validity or afterwards when they were withdrawn. In this area, an expert familiar with the differences in the appearances of the cardboard paper and the colors of the printings, can easily differentiate the cutouts of the specimen printings from the cards printed for circulation that look different.

Gyula Madarász wrote about the 1871 issue gummed, postally unused printings on cardboard paper masquerading as stamps in the Monograph[6]:

> "*There are no complete counterfeits of the engraved issue, only those that have been made from the various reprints of the 1871 stamps.*
>
> *The most dangerous imitations of the unused engraved stamps are the counterfeits with cleverly faked gummed side and perforations that can easily deceive collectors.*
>
> *If we are aware of the existence of these counterfeits and can analyze the possibility of them being faked, then we can surely defend ourselves in case such an engraved item turns up*."

The webpage of the Magyar Bélyegvizsgáló Szakcsoport (MBSZ) / Hungarian Stamp Examining Study Group lists the experts, who have financially bonded liability and are available to provide expert opinions. They are experts available for every collecting area that has been infected with counterfeits. Their expert attestations are based on strict guidelines under the rules of the Study Group. Thus, filtering out fakes is no longer impeded by the lack of recognized and trusted stamp examiners.

[6] **Monograph III.** p. 505.

According to the rules of the Study Group, these stamp examiners can only provide opinions in the areas of their expertise regarding philatelic items produced for general circulation. Although in exhibitions organized under FIP rules, collectors are expected to show other documents such as directives, stamp designs, proof printings, and reprints, the examiners do not prepare certifications (so-called "attests") for these. In case of such a request, they are allowed to provide only an expert opinion but that is not permitted to include a statement regarding authenticity.

If a buyer suspects an item is a forgery, the correct procedure is to ask for a certificate of authenticity from the seller. If such a document cannot be produced, then a report must be made on the spot in the presence of two witnesses to the nearest authority. The witnesses are needed to preclude the possibility of the buyer making a false accusation. Any report that "an unknown person is suspected of stamp counterfeiting" should be made without delay.

The determination of the identity of the culprit should be left to the police and the sanctioning to the judicial authorities. The person bringing charges in this type of situation needs to participate only as a witness. Instead of the usual endless complaining about fakes, it is better to accept a bit of inconvenience in the interest of the future of our hobby. In this way, any of us can contribute to filtering out the swindlers and contribute to maintaining the integrity of our philatelic endeavors. If just one or two such occurrences were to make the news, this would provide a serious deterrent to counterfeiting.

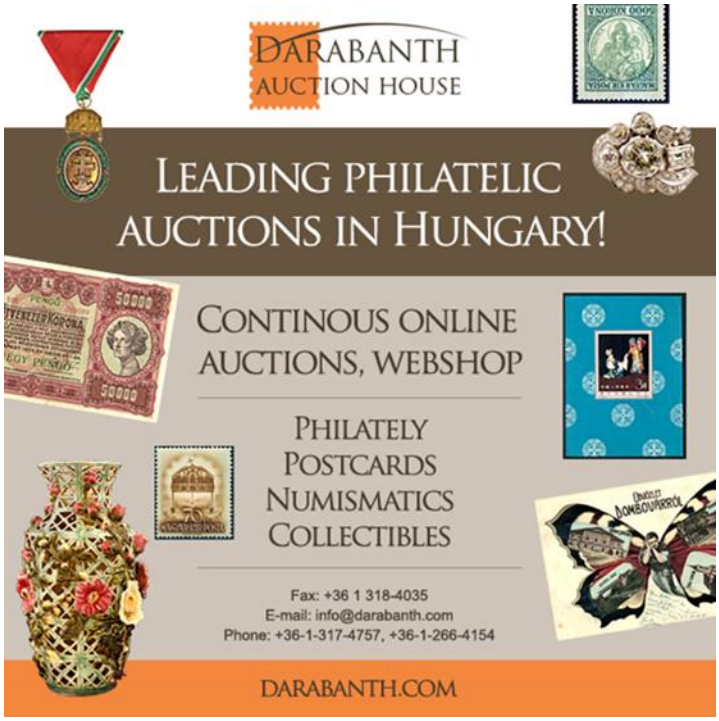
Hopefully, this article will help the owners of complete specimen sheets to realize the importance of keeping these important philatelic items intact and in their original condition. Given the narrow confines of the marketplace, it takes decades to liquidate the cutout pieces of a complete sheet, as naturally, releasing any large quantity of the cutouts on the market at one time would drastically reduce the prices realized. Thus, cutting up one of these specimen sheets not only destroys a valuable piece of philatelic information but also results in a lot of potentially uneconomical work.

❋

YUGOSLAVIA STUDY GROUP

Based in the UK, the Yugoslavia Study Group is the only society in the English-speaking world devoted to the study of Yugoslavia, its predecessor and successor states, with their strong connections to Hungarian, Austrian and German philately. YSG has around 60 members, half of whom are based outside the UK. All members receive the quarterly journal Jugopošta. The society has held a number of meetings on Zoom so far, with members from all over the world, which we intend to continue in the future.

Annual dues are £15 for the UK, £22 (surface mail) or £27 (airmail) for the rest of the world. An "electronic" membership (Jugopošta delivered by email) is £8 worldwide. Dues from outside the UK can be paid by PayPal or bank transfer. Details from the Treasurer, David Foster at 3 Welland Close, Brookfield, Middlesbrough, TS5 8JG, UK or (daveinthenorth@googlemail.com).



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1896 MILLENNIUM POSTAL STATIONERY CARDS

A 2kr "Hunyady János" Millennium postal stationery card that has been turned into an advertisement for Hunyadi János Natural Mineral Water and sent to a doctor in Glenwood, Iowa on March 11, 1897. The card has been uprated with a 3kr stamp from the Coloured Numeral Envelope issue, with the company perfin, to pay the then current foreign postcard rate of 5kr.